Enter Bast. and Curan meeting.

Bast. Saue thee *Curan.*

Curan. And you Sir, I haue beene with your father, and giuen him notice, that the Duke of *Cornwall* and his Dutches will bee here with him to night.

Bast. How comes that?

Curan. Nay, I know not, you haue heard of the newes abroad, I meane the whisperd ones, for there are yet but eare-bussing arguments.

Bast. Not, I pray you what are they?

Curan. Haue you heard of no likely warres towards, twixt the two Dukes of *Cornwall* and *Albany*?

Bast. Not a word.

Curan. You may then in time; fare you well sir.

Bast. The Duke be here to night! the better best, this weaues
Enter Edgar it selfe perforce into my busines; my father hath set gard to take my brother, and I haue one thing of a queasie question, which must aske breefnes and fortune helpe; brother, a word, discend brother I say, my father watches; O flie this place, intelligence is giuen where you are hid, you haue now the good aduantage of the night, haue you not spoken gainst the Duke of *Cornwall* ought? hee's coming hether now in the night, i'h hast, and *Regan* with him; haue you nothing said vpon his partie against the Duke of *Albany*, aduise your---

Edg. I am sure on't not a word.

Bast. I heare my father coming, pardon me in crauing, I must draw my sword vpon you, seeme to defend your selfe; now quit you well, yeeld, come before my father; light here, here, flie brother flie, torches, torches, so farwell; some bloud drawne on mee would beget opinion of my more fierce indeuour; I haue seene drunckards doe more then this in sport, father, father, stop, stop, no, helpe! *Enter Glost.*

Glost. Now *Edmund* where is the villaine?

Bast. Here stood he in the darke, his sharpe sword out, warbling of wicked charms, coniuring the Moone to stand's auspicious Mistris. *Glost.* But where is he?

Bast. Looke sir, I bleed.

Glost. Where is the villaine *Edmund*?

Bast.

Bast. Fled this way sir, when by no meanes he could---

Glost. Pursue him, go after: by no meanes, what?

Bast. Perswade me to the murder of your Lordship, but that I told him the reuengiue Gods, gainst Paracides did all their thunders bend; spoke with how many-fould, and strong a bond the child was bound to the father; sir in fine, seeing how loathly opposite I stood, to his vnnaturall purpose; with fell motion with his prepared sword hee charges home my vnprouided body, lancht mine arme; but when he saw my best alarumd spirits, bould in the quarrels, rights rousd to the encounter, or whether gasted by the noyse I made, but sodainly he fled.

Glost. Let him flie farre, not in this land shall hee remaine vncaught and found; dispatch, the noble Duke my maister, my worthy Arch and Patron, comes to night; by his authoritie I will proclaime it, that he which finds him shall deserue our thankes, bringing the murderous caytife to the stake; hee that conceals him, death.

Bast. When I disswaded him from his intent, and found him pight to doe it, with curst speech I threatned to discouer him, he replyed, thou vnpossessing Bastard, dost thou thinke, if I would stand against thee, could the reposure of any trust, vertue, or worth in thee make thy words fayth'd? no. what I should denie, as this I would; I, though thou didst produce my very character, id'e turne it all to thy suggestion, plot, and damned pretence, and thou must make a dullard of the world, if they not thought the profits of my death, were very pregnant and potentiall spurres to make thee seeke it.

Glost. Strong and fastned villaine, would he denie his letter? I neuer got him; harke the Dukes trumpets, I know not why he comes; all Ports ile barre, the villaine shall not scape, the Duke must grant mee that; besides, his picture I will send farre and neere, that all the kingdome may haue note of him; and of my land, loyall and naturall boy ile worke the meanes to make thee capable.

Enter the Duke of Cornwall.

Corn. How now my noble friend, since I came hether, which I can call but now, I haue heard strange newes.

Reg. If it be true, all vengeance comes too short which can

pursue